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PROGRAM Metromedia News

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SUBJECT Edwin Wilson

JACKSON BAIN: A former CIA agent accused of helping to train Libyan terrorists, was arrested today at New York's Kennedy Airport. They've been looking for him for a long time. Edwin Wilson faces indictment on a number of charges including illegal export of explosives and other military equipment. He was travelling with an Irish passport and a false name.

Metromedia 5's Dave Browde reports.

DAVE BROWDE: Edwin Wilson appeared unruffled in a New York City courtroom. He smiled throughout his arraignment, even when US magistrate Simon Krein [?] ordered his held on \$20 million bail.

Wilson and another ex-CIA agent, Frank Terpil, fled the country in 1980 after they were indicted on charges of supplying Libyan strongman Muammar Qaddafi with 20 tons of explosives, and with recruiting ex-Green Berets and active CIA agents to train teams of Libyan terrorists.

Wilson had been tracked through Western Europe by American agents, and after they discovered he was travelling on a phony Irish passport, they notified authorities in the Dominican Republic.

MAN: He attempted to enter the Dominican Republic this morning. He was taken to what they call secondary -- a secondary area where they -- when they want to do an extensive check of the documents. They looked at his documents. He was kept there, and five minutes before the flight departed to New York he was informed that his documents were insufficient for entry to the Dominican Republic, that he was being returned to New York.

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BROWDE: Dominican immigration agents refused to allow Wilson into the country, and put him on a plane to the United States. Justice Department officials say he offered no resistance.

MAN: He reportedly told the Dominican authorities that he did not have a visa for New York -- the United States -- and they told him that he didn't have to worry about that, and was put on the plane.

BROWDE: The only member of the alleged conspiracy still at large, ex-CIA agent Frank Terpil, is now living in Libya. Officials here say they still have hopes of capturing him but their hopes are not very good at all.

At the Justice Department, this is Dave Browde.